TEST, EVALUATION AND ACQUISITION: DOWN UNDER



Wing Commander Bill Thompson Royal Australian Air Force

TOPICS OF DISCUSSION

- General Environment
- T&E Organisational Structure
- Changes at the Working Level
- Challenge of OT&E
- Future Directions

GENERAL ENVIRONMENT

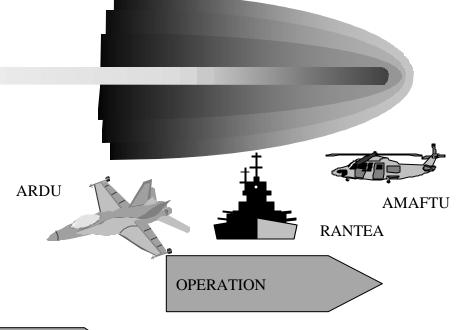
- Strategic
 - Downsizing
 - Outsourcing
 - Defence Efficiency Review
- Operational
 - East Timor
 - Olympics
 - Project Cost Over-runs

DEFENCE EFFICIENCY REVIEW

- Complete Review of Defence Functions
- Reinforced Downsizing and Outsourcing
- Recommended Structural Changes
 - Consolidation of Support Functions
 - Consolidation of Acquisition
 - Consolidation of T&E

CONSOLIDATION OF T&E

(and RANGES)



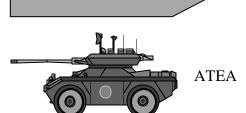
SUPPORT

RESEARCH

DEFINITION

ACQUISITION





ARDU EXAMPLE

- Business Process Re-engineering
- Reorganised from functional to IPT
- Downsizing and outsourcing
 - 300 people to approx 150 core
 - Outsourced Transport Support
 - Outsourced Maintenance
 - Woomera T&E Range?

REWARDS

- Focussed on Delivering Capability
- IPT Structure Supports CONOPS
- Better Forward Planning
- Better Resource Utilisation

DIFFICULTIES

- Concurrent Changes
- High Workload
- Flight Safety Incidents
 - Impact of Change
 - Operation of Civil Aircraft

CHALLENGE OF OT&E

- Number of New and Upgraded Platforms
- Operational Tasking versus OT&E
- Resource Constraints
- Result
 - More Mission Worthiness Testing within Acquisition

FUTURE - MINISTER'S VIEW

- Whole-of-life Capability Process
- Defence White paper
 - Priorities for Acquisition

FUTURE - NEW SECRETARY'S VIEW

- "Defence's financial situation ... might best be described as parlous"
- "considerable pain will be required to get us back on track"

FUTURE - BILL'S VIEW

- Rationalisation of Acquisition Projects
 - Cancellation
 - Rescoping back to Budget
- Organisational Restructure
 - Consolidation of Acquisition and Logistics
 - Consolidation of T&E Functions
- Process Reforms